

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
HELD WEDNESDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 1986, AT 7:00 P.M.
IN ROOM H-762, HALL BUILDING, SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS CAMPUS

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED AT THIS MEETING:

BD-54-D1a. The Quebec Student Movement (Jan. 31, 1983)
BD-54-D1b. CUSA's External Relations Options for the Future (July 1984)
BD-54-D1c. Why? A CUSA External Affairs Discussion Paper (April 1985)
BD-54-D1d. CUSA's External Relations: Options (Book II) (May 1985)
BD-54-D1e. CUSA-ANEQ Relations 1984-85
BD-54-D1f. ANEQ Membership (Memo Desrosiers/Sicard) (June 1986)
BD-54-D1g. Flight Over the Quebec Student Movement Focusing on ANEQ
(August 1986)
-----: Expose de l'Executif de l'ANEQ concernant le membership de CUSA
dans l'ANEQ
BD-54-D2: Molson's Response to Proposed Coors Boycott
BD-54-D3: Letter to Governors on the Academic Materials Fee
BD-54-D4: Report on the Mayoralty Candidate Meeting
BD-54-D5: Academic Council Report
BD-54-D6: Academic Council Constitution

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chairperson John Moore called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

PRESENT:

Co-Presidents:

Karen Takacs
Scott White (7:30)

Commerce:

Karen Ashton

Engineering:

Dan Artola
Jon Jolivet (8:20)

Arts and Science:

Maria Calderone
Glen Cheverie
Mike Foster
Jim Locke (8:40)
Linda Piovesan
Bettina Rosenberg
Julie Smith
Scott Townsend

Fine Arts:

Ian Fleet
Francois Gurik
Keren Penney

ABSENT:

Arts and Science: Joe Fortune, Amanda Masterman, Emma Tibaldo
Commerce: Scott Bergen, Tony Ghannamy (W/R)

Advisors to the Board Present: Frank Benson, former Chairperson, Judicial Board; Susan Hunt, Student Life V.P.; Gracie MacDonald, former Communications V.P.; Craig McNamee, Finance V.P.; Scott Robertson, Education V.P.; Francois Desrosiers, Peter Wheeland.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Glen Cheverie on behalf of the Liaison Committee announced that Item 6(i) Ratification of New Clubs should be struck from the Agenda because there were no new clubs ready to be brought to the Board this evening. Karen Takacs requested that Item 6(a) Senate Appointments be moved to 6(i), which would allow the representatives from ANEQ to make their presentation as Item 6(a). Frank Benson asked that Judicial Board be allowed to propose the dates for the by-elections of the Association as Item 6(b).

MOVE to approve the Agenda as amended.

Moved by: Karen Ashton
Seconded by: Karen Takacs

There were no objections to this Motion.

3. Chairperson's Remarks:

Chairperson John Moore announced that Brian Zelnicker had resigned and that Elizabeth Isaac was no longer eligible to be a Director because she had entered a graduate program. He stated that these resignations bring to ten the number of vacancies to be contested in the by-elections.

4. Reports:

a) Co-Presidents' Report:

Karen Takacs reported that she and Scott White had met with the Rector earlier in the day regarding the Academic Materials Fee. The Rector acknowledged receiving the letter (BD-54-D3) that the Co-Presidents had sent to the Board of Governors, and told the Co-Presidents that the legal opinion the University had received was that precedent had been set whereby the calendar forms part of the contract. He explained that it was dangerous not to recognize the calendar as part of the contract for the basic reason that students' rights are guaranteed in the calendar. Karen Takacs reported that the Co-Presidents told the Rector of the number of irate students and explained the legal opinion that CUSA had received. They also asked what would happen to the students who did not pay the fee. The Rector responded that he would not threaten the students, but they would not be allowed to graduate if they had any unpaid debts to the University as per the calendar. The Rector is, however, open to suggestions such as arbitration. Karen Takacs stated that Small Claims Court looks like the best option at this time.

(7:30)

Karen Takacs stated that the Co-Presidents had asked if there was a policy regarding what is covered by the Academic Materials Fee. The Rector said that he had written a letter to Deans and Administrative Heads explaining what the fee covers and stating that students cannot be charged in class for materials. This letter will be published in the "Thursday Report". Scott White stated that the policy is clear and covers items not commercially available through the bookstore. The University's Treasurer will increase the budgets of the various departments to cover losses incurred as a result. Scott White further explained that the problem seems

to be that the Rector's letter was sent out on September 2nd and has not been widely distributed.

Karen Takacs stated that Bettina Rosenberg had volunteered to be the first student to take the University to Small Claims Court as per Motion 327 passed at the 53rd Meeting of the Board. This case will take approximately three months to be heard at court.

Craig McNamee asked what CUSA policy should be regarding the Academic Materials Fee. Karen Takacs responded that students should not pay until they are billed, and if they are charged additionally for materials they should take a receipt and approach Administration for reimbursement.

Karen Takacs further explained that the maximum fee set by the government is \$100 per year. Concordia University is charging \$3.50 per credit based on the average of 27 per credits per student (which works out at less than \$100). However, if a student is taking more than 27 credits, s/he will be charged more than \$100. Francois Desrosiers urged CUSA to object to the University charging more than the allowable amount stipulated by the government. Scott White commented that the Board of Governor's Finance Committee is expected to give authorization to charge \$3.50 per credit.

(7:45)

Karen Takacs reported that the next Board of Governors Meeting will be September 18th at 8:00 a.m. on the Seventh Floor of the Hall Building. The Co-Presidents have given notice of motion to have the imposition of the fee delayed by one year. Students are invited to attend, and the Academic Materials Fee will be discussed in open session.

b) Executive Reports:

Chairperson John Moore announced that V.P. External Marc Sicard had resigned from his position.

Gracie MacDonald reported that there have been several applicants for her former position of Communications V.P. She also distributed a report (BD-54-D4) concerning the meeting mayoralty candidate Claude Dupras held with representatives of Montreal-area students' associations. Also present at that meeting were Francois Desrosiers and Scott White.

Finance V.P. Craig McNamee reported that clubs were submitting budgets prior to the Sept. 19th deadline, and that FinCom had been meeting regularly to try and go through all the proposed budgets. He added that copies of the budget package are available if Directors want to see it, and that the budget package has been generally well received. He stated that the Handbook was on budget for the first time in five or six years: \$14,000-16,000 net cost resulting from \$34,000 expenses and \$17,000-20,000 revenue.

Karen Takacs on behalf of Programming V.P. Cherine Hamam reported that the Programming Committee had been formed, and the budget is being prepared at this time. There has been some interest in having the mayoralty candidates come to Concordia for a debate but the Programming Committee needs people to help out with this project. Dan Artola mentioned that ECA has invited Jean Dore to speak in October.

Glen Cheverie stated that the Liaison Committee had been working on "Clubs on Campus". This three-day event has been very successful and ends tomorrow. The Liaison Committee is looking for dates for another "Clubs on Campus".

Student Life V.P. Susan Hunt reported that CCSL is behind schedule. She stated that all those interested in serving on CCSL should come forward.

c) Cusacorp Subcommittee Report:

This Item was postponed to the next Board meeting because the Subcommittee has not had an opportunity to meet yet.

5. Question Period:

Keren Penney asked if CRSG would broadcast in the VA Building. Bettina Rosenberg answered that the speakers are available but the Fine Arts faculty had said that they did not want it. Keren Penney asked whose time and whose budget would be used to set it up, because as much as the students want it they have no time or funds to put towards it. Karen Takacs stated that she would talk to Paul Gott and would have an answer at the next Board meeting.

(8:00)

6. New Business:

a) ANEQ Representatives' Presentation:

Jean-Pierre Paquet, Secretaire General, and Francois Giguere, Officier aux affaires externes, of ANEQ distributed the following: history of the Quebec student movement, Quebec Etudiant newspaper, "plan d'action de l'ANEQ", and an expose on CUSA's membership in ANEQ (English copies will be made available). Francois Giguere read through the expose.

After the presentation of the expose, Francois Desrosiers asked how the ANEQ executives plan to reconcile the structural differences which CUSA want to see in the future. Francois Giguere stated that these differences represent a radical change and that experimentation would be needed before such changes are adopted, but the executives will try at a future congress. Francois Desrosiers commented that the membership is not paid any attention, especially Concordia, and cited the example of not having received financial statements for the last six months. Francois Giguere responded that it is not just money but energy that is required, and because the membership is spread all over Quebec, there is trouble in trying to cover that much territory.

(8:30)

Francois Giguere stated that ANEQ is trying to work with CUSA as much as possible, and added that the Central Council has been enlarged so that there will be more emphasis in Montreal now. Karen Takacs asked whether the financial statements were being published. Francois Giguere stated that they should be published monthly except that ANEQ finances are in a mess, however they are being straightened out at this time. He stated that the financial statements from June to date will be available soon.

Francois Desrosiers asked how relevant it was to be a member of a group that has structural problems and admits same, however when a member gives suggestions, such suggestions are not acted upon. Francois Giguere responded that ANEQ is anxious to settle the problem but CUSA's suggestions did not appeal to other members and were tabled or rejected as per the members' wishes.

(8:45)

b) CUSA Budget:

Scott White explained that the budget was prepared as an exercise to find out where money is spent in order to make cuts. Karen Takacs added that the budget is a guideline to follow, to help with planning.

MOTION to table this Item until the next meeting following specific comments on major points by the Co-Presidents.

Moved by: Keren Penney
Seconded by: Bettina Rosenberg

VOTE:

9/0/4 Carried

Scott White stated that there is a large deficit from last year which is owed back to the University. The exact amount of the deficit is not known at this time but it will be between \$100,000-\$200,000. The revenue figure shown is low, he explained, because of the drop in enrollment. He added that two sources were used to arrive at the figures: historical data and actual bills. The major difference with this budget is that particular areas are identified. He then led the Board through an item-by-item discussion of the budget.

(9:30)

d) Coors Boycott:

Chairperson John Moore gave the floor to Thomas Burnside of Lesbian and Gay Friends of Concordia. Thomas Burnside stated that he was not expecting any sort of decision from the Board this evening, that his intention was to inform the Board. He referred the Directors to the LGFC listing in the handbook and the appeal to boycott Coors beer contained therein on Page 179. He explained that a boycott is in order because the Coors Brewing Company in the U.S. practices a policy of discrimination in hiring based on race, religion, political viewpoint and sexual orientation; and company uses lie detectors and searches of personal property to investigate the personal lives of its workers and to maintain its discriminatory practices; and the Coors family are founders and continuing financial supporters of the Moral Majority. Thomas Burnside stated that these are major, far-reaching issues covering items as diverse as equal rights, censorship, AIDS, etc. Thomas Burnside is pursuing documentation from "Body Politic" in Toronto. He noted that Molson's responded to CUSA but has not yet responded to "Body Politic", and he suggested that this could be because CUSA is not taken as seriously as "Body Politic". In the response that Molson's gave to CUSA (BD-54-D2), Thomas Burnside felt that there were some inaccuracies: firstly, that Molson's is not the target, the Coors label is, and secondly that there is an active boycott at the University of Toronto by the gay and lesbian students. Gay bar managers in Montreal are considering a boycott. If Concordia boycotts Coors on the initiative of LGFC, this would set an example. Thomas Burnside closed his comments

stating that he hopes to meet again with the Board with more details and added that there is a population of 3,000 gays and lesbians at Concordia.

Karen Takacs stated that they had had a successful meeting with John Molson who advised them that a decision by the Board regarding Coors would not affect present or future arrangements with Molson's. Regarding Molson's response to CUSA (BD-54-D2), she stated that John Molson will be providing facts to back up the statements made in the documents and these will be presented at the next meeting along with the new information from LGFC.

(9:45)

e) International Students:

Karen Takacs stated that CUSA had been approached by several international students who have not yet been given official status by Immigration Canada and, therefore, have to pay international fees. If they were to be granted official status, they would not have to pay the international fees. These students are allowed to work in Canada, have been given Social Insurance Numbers, and Immigration says that it hopes to clear up the paperwork soon. However, if these students have not been granted official status by October 25th, they will have to pay the international fees. The Quebec Government has told universities that the government will pick up 10% of the international fees for graduate and undergraduate students, and that the universities are free to decide how to apply this policy. At Concordia University, this means that approximately 35 students could be exempted from paying international fees, however it has been decided at Concordia to use it for scholarships (academic standing is a major criteria) for graduate students only. The International Student Advisor, Fred Francis, has urged students to write to the Vice-Rector, Services.

(10:00)

MOTION 336:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CUSA Board of Directors makes a motion of support for refugee students whose cases are pending and that the Government and the Minister for Immigration expediate the paperwork in these cases.

Moved by: Jim Locke
Seconded by: Keren Penney

VOTE ON MOTION 336:

UNANIMOUS

MOTION 337:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT letters of intervention to the appropriate ministers in the Government and to the Vice-Rector, Services of Concordia University be sent requesting special consideration for refugee students whose cases are pending, that their fees be waived.

Moved by: Jim Locke
Seconded by: Keren Penney

VOTE ON MOTION 337:

UNANIMOUS

i) Senate Appointments:

Scott Robertson, V.P. Education, announced that the Hiring and Appointments Committee was bringing two candidates before the Board this evening for ratification of their appointments to Senate. This leaves two more vacancies to be filled.

Candidate: Gilles Desharnais:

Gilles Desharnais stated that he was in his fourth year of the Electrical Engineering program. He feels that he is qualified to represent students at Senate. Jim Locke asked if his course load might be too heavy to take on the additional burden of Senate, but Gilles Desharnais reassured the Board that he can handle it all. Karen Takacs asked if he had the support of ECA. Dan Artola stated that he did have ECA's backing.

MOTION 338:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors ratifies the appointment of Gilles Desharnais to Senate.

Moved by: Karen Ashton
Seconded by: Francois Gurik

VOTE ON MOTION 338:

12/1/1 Carried

Candidate: Maureen Coulas:

Maureen Coulas stated that she was a third-year Commerce student. Last year she was President of the Commerce and Administration Students' Association and on the Commerce and Administration Faculty Council, and was asked to sit on Senate but was unavailable due to time commitments. This year, however, she has fewer commitments and she is aware of the lack of representation for the Commerce faculty.

MOTION 339:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors ratifies the appointment of Maureen Coulas to Senate.

Moved by: Karen Takacs
Seconded by: Jon Jolivet

VOTE ON MOTION 339:

13/0/1 Carried

b) Judicial Board:

Frank Benson, Chairperson, Judicial Board, proposed dates for the by-elections of the Association which will be held for the following vacancies: three (3) Arts and Science Directors, four (4) Commerce Directors, two (2) Engineering Directors, and one (1) Fine Arts Directors.

MOTION 340:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the by-elections of the Association be held on the following dates: a two-week nomination period from Monday, Sept. 22nd at 9:00 a.m. to Friday, Oct. 3rd at 5:00 p.m.; A one-week campaign period from

Monday, Oct. 6th at 9:00 a.m. to Sunday, Oct. 12th at midnight; the elections will be held over a two-day period, Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 14th and 15th; and the results will be announced by Friday, Oct. 17th at 5:00 p.m.

Moved by: Keren Penney
Seconded by: Linda Piovesan

VOTE ON MOTION 340:

13/0/1 Carried

Jim Locke asked if the Judicial Board had reached a decision in the case of the alleged printing of homophobic material in "the Concordian". Frank Benson responded that the case has been before Judicial Board for a long time, however, the nature of the case was serious enough that it would be dishonourable to render a decision over the summer while people were away. Frank Benson stated that the decision was imminent and would be rendered within the next seven days.

f) Publicity Campaign:

Regarding the Parliamentary Commission, Francois Desrosiers reported that the CUSA presentation could be in the first week of October. He stated that there is a need for students to work on a Campaign Committee to make other students aware of what is happening in regard to the Parliamentary Commission so that students will have the background to be able to assess the implications of the recommendations of the Parliamentary Commission. Karen Takacs added that plans are being made to hold a general assembly and volunteers are needed to set the agenda for the assembly. She stated that she would phone the Directors to recruit them as well as to let them know what has been decided. Francois Desrosiers urged the Directors to become involved and to help out with anything they could, including making posters and pamphlet distribution.

g) Academic Council:

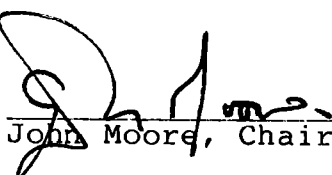
This Item was postponed until the next meeting.

7. Date of Next Meeting:

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, September 23, at 7:00 p.m. in H-762.

8. Adjournment:

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m.


John Moore, Chairperson


Jo Howard, Recording Secretary